

between the states. At the close of the war he received an honorable discharge and returned to his family who continued to live in Michigan during his absence on military service. Adam Allen was married to Mary Parker, who was born near the university city of Oxford, England, and some years later came to this country. They became the parents of three children, namely: Bessie, deceased; Ada, who is married, and Albert C., the subject of this sketch.

Albert C. Allen was educated in the schools of Sauk Center and of Clay county, to which he came with his mother in 1878. He followed the life of a farmer and about seven years ago made his first purchase of land. He is now the owner of one hundred and sixty acres of prime land in Glyndon township, Clay county, and is successfully carrying on his farming operations according to modern methods of agriculture. He has set out about forty-five acres of his holding to the cultivation of potatoes and in all his farm labors is doing very well, being recognized as a progressive and up-to-date farmer. He carried out several improvements on the place.

Albert C. Allen was united in marriage to Agnes Friday, who was born in the state of Wisconsin in 1873. To this union two children have been born, Merle and Myrtle, both living at home with their parents. Mr. Allen served as chairman of the Board of township supervisors for three years, giving considerable satisfaction in that office, and in other ways he has given evidence of his interest in public affairs. The Allen family are earnestly interested in all the good works of the neighborhood in which they reside.

PETER H. HANSON.

Peter H. Hanson, one of the best-known pioneers of Norman county, now living retired at Gary, where he has just completed a handsome, modern home, is a native son of Minnesota, and has lived in this state all his life. He was born on a pioneer farm in the near vicinity of Albert Lea, in Freeborn county, August 21, 1858, son of Hans and Carrie Olson (Kernvald) Hanson, natives of the kingdom of Norway, who came to the United States in 1853 and after a short stay at Round Prairie, Wisconsin, moved to Kamrar, Iowa, where they lived until 1858, in which year they moved up into Minnesota, settling in Freeborn county, in the immediate vicinity of Albert Lea. Hans Hanson was a tailor by trade, but upon coming to Minnesota homesteaded a quarter of a section of land near Albert Lea and proceeded to develop the same, at the same time establishing a tailor shop

the first in that part of the state, and worked both at farming and at tailoring. He and his wife spent the remainder of their days on that homestead farm and both lived to be past eighty years of age. Hans Hanson, who was born on June 10, 1827, died on February 25, 1911, he then being in his eighty-fourth year, and his widow, who was born on December 24, 1829, survived him until July 27, 1916, she being in her eighty-seventh year at the time of her death. They were the parents of fifteen children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the sixth in order of birth, the others being Anna, Helen and Marie (twins), Ole, Charles, Bertha Louise (who died in her third year), Adolph Wilhelm, Bertha Louise, Hans Thomas, Caroline Marie, Emma, Sophia Randine, Albert and Martin F. Hans Hanson and his wife were members of the Lutheran church and their children were reared in that faith.

Peter H. Hanson was reared on the home farm near Albert Lea and received his elementary schooling in the schools of that place, supplementing the same by a course in Luther College at Decorah, Iowa, which he attended from 1872 to 1876. He then started teaching school in his home county and was thus engaged there, during the winters, until the spring of 1881, when he came up into this part of the state and homesteaded a quarter of a section of land in section 24 of Sundal township, Norman county, and proceeded to develop the same. It was on April 10, 1881, that Mr. Hanson located in Norman county and he ever since has resided there, being thus properly regarded as one of the pioneers of the county, which was created as a separate civic unit in that year. The next year he married and he then established his home on his homestead tract, his first house being a one-story log house, thirteen by fourteen feet in dimension, with a sod roof, and in that house he and his wife made their home for five years, or until he could "prove up" on his claim, after which he made permanent improvements of a substantial character. All of that quarter section was broken and grubbed by Mr. Hanson himself, with the exception of a patch of fifteen acres which he hired grubbed. For six years after locating there he continued to teach school during the winters, spending his summers in developing his farm, and he thus left a lasting impression upon the minds and hearts of the youth of that community, as one of the pioneer teachers of Sundal township. Among the improvements Mr. Hanson made on his place was the planting of a grove of about one thousand evergreen trees, which, now grown to admirable size, form a most attractive feature of the landscape thereabout.

In 1887, not long after he had "proved up" his homestead, Mr. Hanson left the farm to accept the position of manager of the Thorpe elevator and lumber yard at Gary and moved to the new town on the railroad. In 1889 he built a store building and started a general store at Gary, employing clerks to conduct the same for him, while he gave his attention principally to buying cattle and grain. At the same time he was running the local hotel and was serving as postmaster at Gary. From 1890 to 1895 he was engaged in buying grain for the P. V. Elevator Company at Gary and was thus engaged there until the latter year, when he sold his interests in the village and returned to his farm in Sundal township, where he remained until the fall of 1916, when he retired from the farm and returned to Gary, where he and his family are now very comfortably situated, their house, just recently completed, being provided with every convenience of a city home and regarded as one of the best houses in the county. During his long residence on the farm Mr. Hanson took an active part in public affairs, served for some time as assessor of Sundal township and also as justice of the peace in and for that township and was chairman of the board of township supervisors for three years, during which time he started the movement for the construction of bridges and sewers with concrete. In the general business affairs of his community he also continued to take an active interest and was one of the organizers of the Sundal Creamery Company and of the Sundal Mercantile Company.

It was in 1882, the year after he located in Norman county, that Peter H. Hanson was united in marriage to Mary Fossum, also of Freeborn county, and to this union three children have been born, Clara A., Henry P. and Maud P. The Hansons are members of the United Lutheran church and take a proper interest in church work, as well as in the general good works of the community, helpful in promoting all agencies designed to advance the common welfare.

FRANK MUELLER.

Frank Mueller, one of Norman county's most substantial farmers, the owner of a fine farm of six hundred acres in Green Meadow township, former justice of the peace in and for that township, a former member of the board of township supervisors, president of the Green Meadow Creamery Company and in other ways actively identified with the general civic and business interests of his home community, is a native son of Minnesota